GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1357
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
NATIONAL BIO-TECHNOLOGY POLICY
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has set up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Bio-Technology to formulate national bio-technology policy;

(b)

(b) If so, whether the panel has been asked to submit its report within three months;

(c) whether Dr. Swaminathan panel has already submitted its report but Mashelkar panel has not yet submitted its recommendations;

(d) whether the proposed national bio-technology policy is likely to include some inputs from these two panel reports; and

(e) if so, the time by when the said policy is likely to be finalised?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The report of the Task Force constituted by Ministry of Agriculture, on Application of Agricultural Biotechnology, under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S Swaminathan, has submitted its report. The Task Force on recombinant pharma products constituted by Ministry of Environment and Forest, under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A Mashelkar had setup a drafting committee, which has submitted its report to the main Task Force. The report would be finalized after further deliberations by the Task Force.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The draft National Biotechnology Policy is expected to be ready by January 2005.